

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 138074  
ORIGIN NEA-11

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:J J ZIOLKOWSKI:LB  
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:J W TWINAM  
NEA/ARP:F H GERLACH  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
NEA ONLY

-----029587 312330Z /15

O R 312213Z MAY 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY DOHA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE  
INFO USLO RIYADH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 138074

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PDIP

SUBJECT: VIOLATIONS OF FIREARMS CONTROL LAWS

1. DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN INFORMED BY BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS THAT IT IS INVESTIGATING SEPARATELY POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF U.S. LAW BY A QATARI STUDENT AND A SAUDI STUDENT IN CONNECTION WITH PURCHASES OF SMALL ARMS. BATF PROVIDED DEPARTMENT WITH FOLLOWING INFO: MOHAMED NAEF AL-SAUD IS STUDENT AT LEWIS AND CLARK COLLEGE IN PORTLAND, OREGON. HE HAS PURCHASED TOTAL OF 14 REPEAT 14 HANDGUNS ON TWO OCCASIONS. HE TOLD BATF INVESTIGATOR THAT GUNS WERE "GIFTS FOR HIS FATHER AND UNCLE." ALI JASSIM AL-THANI IS STUDENT AT PORTLAND STATE. HE HAS PURCHASED TOTAL OF APPROXIMATELY 80 WEAPONS -- ONE RIOT SHOTGUN, THREE SPORTING SHOTGUNS AND THE REST HANDGUNS -- OVER PERIOD OF EIGHT TO NINE MONTHS. TOTAL VALUE OF WEAPONS IS  
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PAGE 02 STATE 138074

APPROXIMATELY DOLS 17,800. HE HAS NOT REPEAT NOT YET BEEN QUESTIONED BY BATF.

2. BATF TOLD DEPARTMENT THAT TWO CASES ARE NOT REPEAT NOT RELATED AND ARE BEING HANDLED SEPARATELY.

3. NO CHARGES HAVE BEEN BROUGHT AGAINST EITHER STUDENT AS

INVESTIGATORS HAVE YET TO DETERMINE WHICH, IF ANY, U.S.

LAWS HAVE BEEN BROKEN. HOWEVER, BATF INVESTIGATOR TOLD DEPARTMENT HE IS "FAIRLY CERTAIN" THAT BOTH STUDENTS SHIPPED WEAPONS ABOARD INTERNATIONAL AIR CARRIER WITHOUT INFORMING AIRLINE AS REQUIRED BY U.S. LAW.

4. REQUEST EMBASSIES DOHA AND JIDDA INFORM DEPARTMENT ASAP WHAT TYPE VISA HAS BEEN ISSUED TO THESE STUDENTS. (NAMES IN PARA 1 ARE AS PROVIDED BY BATF.) WE BELIEVE THAT MOHAMED IS SON OF SAUDI INTERIOR MINISTER PRINCE NAIF (WHO IS REPORTEDLY GOING TO ATTEND SON'S GRADUATION IN PORTLAND NEXT MONTH) AND THAT ALI IS SON OF QATARI MINISTER OF ELECTRICITY AND WATER, SHAIKH JASSIM. CAN POSTS CONFIRM THIS? REASON FOR REQUESTING VISA INFO IS TO DETERMINE IF STUDENTS HAVE ANY CLAIM TO DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES OR IMMUNITY.  
CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 31 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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